WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

. . · · · · · ·

- 1. A ball stud comprising a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about an 8mm or about a 5/16" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein a deck height of the wrench flat is greater than about 4.50mm.
- 2. The ball stud according to claim 1, wherein the deck height is less than about 10.00mm.
- 3. The ball stud according to claim 1, wherein the deck height is less than about 6.50 mm.
- 4. The ball stud according to claim 1, further comprising an upper tool receiving portion positioned at the tip of the ball stud.
- 5. The ball stud according to claim 4, wherein the upper tool receiving portion comprises an outer or inner hex receiving portion.
- 6. A ball stud comprising a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about an 10mm or about a 3/8" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is greater than about 5.00mm.
- 7. The ball stud according to claim 6, wherein the deck height is less than about 10mm.
- 8. The ball stud according to claim 6, wherein the deck height is less than about 8.00mm.
- 9. The ball stud according to claim 6, further comprising an upper tool receiving portion.
- 10. The ball stud according to claim 9, wherein the upper tool receiving portion comprises an inner or an outer hex receiving portion.
- 11. A ball stud comprising a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about an 12mm or about a 7/16" thread diameter for being received by

- a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is greater than about 6.00mm.
- 12. The ball stud according to claim 11, wherein the deck height is less than about 12.00mm.
- 13. The ball stud according to claim 11, wherein the deck height is less than about 9.00mm.
- 14. The ball stud according to claim 11, further comprising an upper tool receiving portion.
- 15. The ball stud according to claim 14, wherein the upper tool receiving portion comprises an inner or an outer hex receiving portion.
- 16. A ball stud comprising a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about a 14mm, 1/2", or 9/16" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is greater than about 6.00mm.
- 17. The ball stud according to claim 16, wherein the deck height is less than about 12.00mm.
- 18. The ball stud according to claim 16, wherein the deck height is less than about 10.00mm.
- 19. The ball stud according to claim 16, further comprising an upper tool receiving portion.
- 20. The ball stud according to claim 19, wherein the upper tool receiving portion comprises an inner or an outer hex receiving portion.
- 21. A ball joint assembly comprising a ball stud having a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about an 8mm or about a 5/16" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein a deck height of the wrench flat is between about 4.50mm and 6.50 mm.

- 12 -

Attorney Docket No.: 26512-501

- 22. A ball joint assembly comprising a ball stud having a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about an 10mm or about a 3/8" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is between about 5.00mm and about 8.00mm.
- 23. A ball joint assembly comprising a ball stud having a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about an 12mm or about a 7/16" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is between about 6.00mm and about 9.00 mm.
- 24. A ball joint assembly comprising a ball stud having a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about a 14mm, 1/2", or 9/16" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is between about 6.00mm and about 10.00 mm.
- 25. A motor vehicle having a ball joint assembly comprising a ball stud having a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about an 10mm or about a 3/8" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is between about 5.00mm and about 8.00mm.
- 26. A motor vehicle having a ball joint assembly comprising a ball stud having a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about an 12mm or about a 7/16" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener, and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is between about 6.00mm and about 9.00 mm.
- 27. A motor vehicle having a ball joint assembly comprising a ball stud having a spherical surface to be received by a ball socket, a threaded portion having about a 14mm, 1/2", or 9/16" thread diameter for being received by a corresponding fastener,

Express Mail Label No.: EV334317728US Date of Deposit: November 12, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 26512-501

and a wrench flat having a deck height for receiving a tool to restrain the ball stud, wherein the deck height is between about 6.00mm and about 10.00 mm.